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The Genus *Paranaphoidea* Girault

(Hymenoptera: Mymaridae)

RICHARD L. DOUTT¹

University of California, Berkeley

Girault twice described *Paranaphoidea* as a new genus; first in 1913, and then curiously without explanation again in 1914. Students of the Mymaridae have been misled by his descriptions, for this resulted in the wrong placement of the genus in the subfamily Mymarinae by Annecke and Doutt (1961). The two subfamilies of Mymaridae are differentiated fundamentally by the manner in which the abdomen and thorax are joined. In the Alaptinae the mesophragma projects strongly into the abdomen which is sessile and broadly joined to the thorax. It is otherwise in the Mymarinae to which *Paranaphoidea* presumably belonged on the basis of Girault's statements such as "phragma apparently absent," "like *Anaphoidea*," and "This genus, for the present, I consider allied with *Anaphoidea*" (Girault, 1914). His choice of the name *Paranaphoidea*, of course, further suggested that the two genera were closely related.

For years no one saw Girault's specimens, he published no illustrations, and his word descriptions were obviously inadequate. Apparently this caused Ogloblin (1935) also to misinterpret the genus when he described *Paranaphoidea silvana* and *P. clavata*. These two species seem better placed in *Patasson*, which is now the proper name for *Anaphoidea*.

Through the courtesy of E. C. Dahms, Curator of Entomology at the Queensland Museum, I have had the opportunity to study there the Girault types. *Paranaphoidea* clearly belongs in the subfamily Alaptinae. The mesophragma is well developed and strongly projects into the abdomen which is sessile and broadly joined to the thorax. The tarsi are 4-segmented so the genus is in the tribe Anagrini according to the classification proposed by Annecke and Doutt (1961). The venation is much like that of *Stethynium* which is a member of the same tribe. The posterior wings are very broad for the family, nearly

¹ Present address: 9240 S. Riverbend Avenue, Parlier, Ca. 93648.

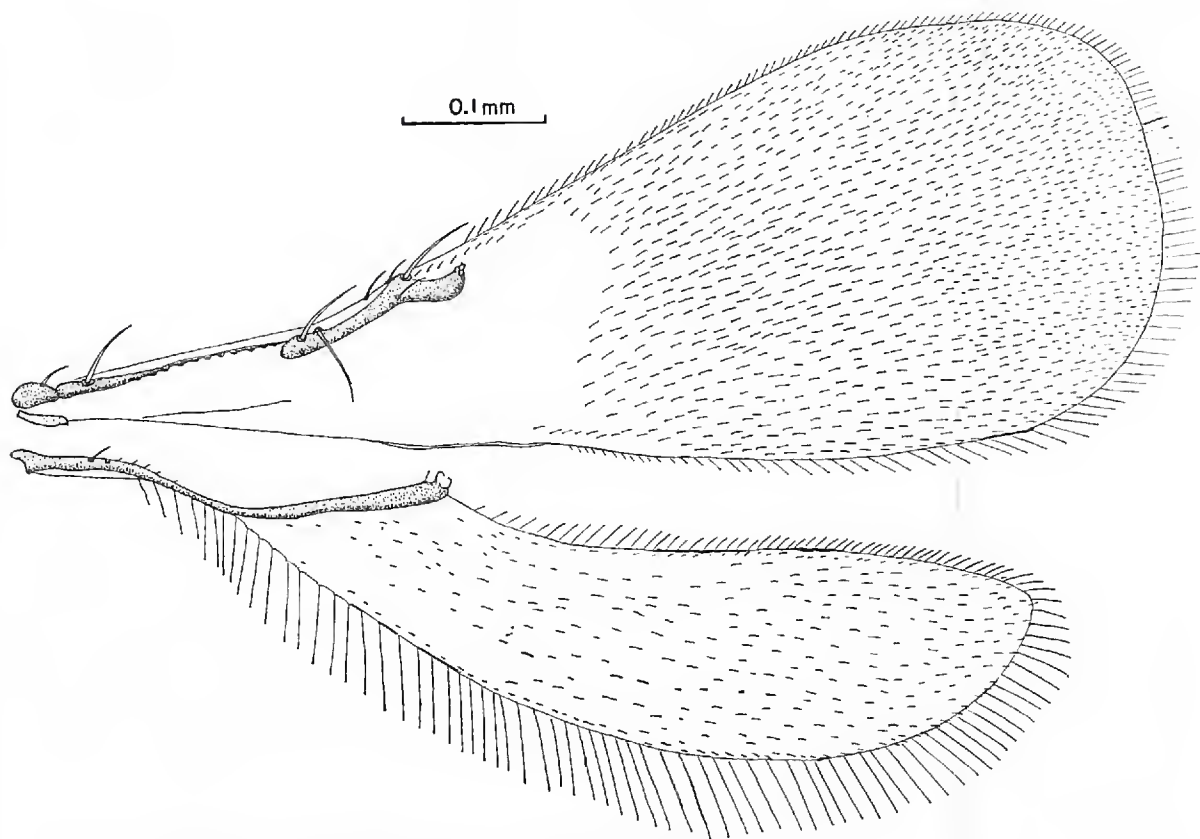


FIG. 1. Wings of *Paranaphoidea densiciliata* Girault.

like those in the Eulophidae yet distinctly pedicellate at base (Fig. 1). Contrary to Girault's description the strigil is present. The ovipositor is strongly developed, and in some species the valvifers extend far forward beneath the thorax in a membranous pouch. The antennae are inserted close to the inner margins of the compound eyes about the middle of the face. The scape and pedicel of the female antennae are comparatively short; in some species the scape is serrated but smooth in others; the funicle is 6-segmented; the club 2-segmented. The forewings are somewhat truncate apically, the marginal fringes short, the discal cilia entirely lacking beneath the sinuate venation.

The most extraordinary species is *P. elongata* which Girault (1923) in a very curious, privately published paper described as "the largest known Mymarid." It does possess an exceptionally elongate abdomen and a tremendously long ovipositor for a Mymarid, and all of its characters such as tarsomeres, flagellomeres and even its wing venation seem abnormally elongated.

The type species is *P. egregia* Girault from which Girault seems to have separated the species *P. caudata* and *P. intermedia* on little more than color differences. In an unpublished manuscript Girault indicated that *Anaphoidea harveyi* Girault belongs to this genus.

The genus is presently constituted as follows, although the proper

status of *P. caudata* and *P. intermedia* deserves further study and the correct inclusion of *P. harveyi* and *P. nigriclava* needs confirmation.

PARANAPHOIDEA Girault

Paranaphoidea Girault, 1913. Mem. Queensland Mus., 2: 115.

Paranaphoidea Girault, 1914. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash., 16(2): 112.

TYPE.—*Paranaphoidea egregia* Girault. Orig. desig.

auripes Girault, 1925. Some gem-like or marvellous inhabitants of the woodlands heretofore unknown and by most never seen nor dreamt of. Privately publ., 3 pp., p. 2. (Type: Mulgowie, Queensland).

caudata Girault, 1915. Mem. Queensland Mus., 3: 161. (Type: Cooktown, Queensland).

densiciliata Girault, 1938. Rev. Entomol., 9: 391. (Type: Canterbury, Victoria).

densiciliata nostra Girault, 1938. Rev. Entomol., 9: 391. (Type: Chinchilla, Australia).

egregia Girault, 1913. Mem. Queensland Mus., 2: 115. (Type: Nelson, Queensland).

elongata Girault, 1923. Loves Wooded and Won in Australia. Privately publ. 3 pp., p. 2. (Type: Wynnum, Australia).

eucalypti Girault, 1925. Insec. Insc. Menstr. 13: 94 (Type: Banyo, Queensland).

harveyi (Girault).

Anaphoidea harveyi Girault, 1912. Mem. Queensland Mus., 1: 151–152. (Type: Nelson, Queensland).

intermedia Girault, 1915. Mem. Queensland Mus., 3: 161. (Type: Gordonvale, Queensland).

nigriclava Girault, 1915. Mem. Queensland Mus., 3: 179. (Type: Burnett Heads, Queensland).

ponderosa Girault, 1915. Mem. Queensland Mus., 2: 115–116. (Type: Nelson, Queensland).

tennysoni Girault, 1920. Insec. Inscit. Menstr. 8: 98. (Type: Cairns, Queensland).

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